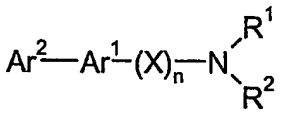
What is claimed is:

1. A compound of formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



I

wherein

Ar^1 is arylene, heteroarylene, substituted arylene or substituted heteroarylene, wherein a ring atom of Ar^1 connected to Ar^2 is seperated from a ring atom of Ar^1 connected to X by at least one atom;

Ar^2 is aryl, heteroaryl, substituted aryl or substituted heteroaryl;

n is 0 or 1;

X is a divalent group that separates groups connected thereto by one or two atoms;

R^1 is a monovalent C_{1-20} group comprising one or more heteroatoms selected from S, O, N and P;

R^2 is hydrogen, C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{1-10}acyl, substituted C_{1-10}acyl, substituted C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{1-10} alkylene, or substituted C_{1-10} alkylene, wherein said alkylene is linked to a ring carbon of Ar^1.

2. A compound of claim 1, wherein

Ar^1 is an arylene, heteroarylene, substituted arylene or substituted heteroarylene, wherein a ring atom of Ar^1 connected to Ar^2 is seperated from a ring atom of Ar^1 connected to X by at least one atom;

Ar^2 is an aryl, heteroaryl, substituted aryl or substituted heteroaryl;

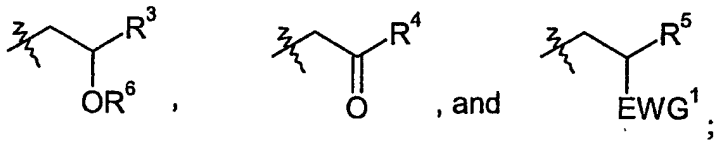
X is $-CH_2-$, or $-CH_2-CH_2-$;

R^2 is C_{1-6} alkyl, substituted C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-3} alkylene, or substituted C_{1-3} alkylene, wherein said alkylene is linked to a ring carbon of Ar^1.

3. A compound of claim 2,

wherein

R^1 is selected from:



wherein R^3 is optionally hydrogen, substituted C_{1-10}alkyl, optionally substituted C_{5-12}aryl, optionally substituted C_{3-10}heteroaryl, optionally substituted aryloxy-C_{1-6}alkyl, optionally substituted heteroaryloxy-C_{1-6}alkyl;

R^4 and R^5 are, independently, hydrogen, optionally substituted C_{1-10}alkyl, optionally substituted C_{5-12}aryl, optionally substituted C_{3-10}heteroaryl, amino group, -NHC(=O)-O-R^7, or -NHC(=O)-R^7, wherein R^7 is C_{1-6}alkyl or aryl;

R^6 is hydrogen, optionally substituted C_{1-6}alkyl, or optionally substituted aryl; and

EWG^1 is an electron withdrawing group.

4. A compound according to claim 1, wherein

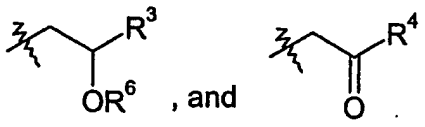
Ar^1 is optionally substituted *para*-phenylene, optionally substituted six-membered *para*-heteroarylene, or optionally substituted monocyclic five-membered *meta*-heteroarylene;

Ar^2 is optionally substituted phenyl, or optionally substituted monocylic five or six-membered heteroaryl;

X is $-CH_2-$, or $-CH_2-CH_2-$;

R^2 is C_{1-3} alkyl, substituted C_{1-3} alkyl, C_{1-3} alkylene, or substituted C_{1-3} alkylene, wherein said alkylene is linked to a ring carbon of Ar^1.

R^1 is selected from:



wherein R^3 is optionally substituted C_{1-6}alkyl, optionally substituted phenyl, optionally substituted phenoxy-methyl;

R^4 is, independently, optionally substituted C_{1-6}alkyl, optionally substituted phenyl, amino, -NHC(=O)-O-R^7, or -NHC(=O)-R^7, wherein R^7 is C_{1-6}alkyl or phenyl; and

R^6 is hydrogen, methyl or ethyl.

5. A compound according to claim 1, wherein

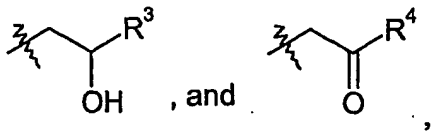
Ar^1 is *para*-phenylene or *para*-pyridylene;

Ar^2 is a phenyl *ortho*-substituted with an electron withdrawing group, or a thienyl *ortho*-substituted with an electron withdrawing group;

X is $-CH_2-$;

R^2 is methyl.

R^1 is selected from:



wherein R^3 is optionally substituted phenyl, or optionally substituted phenoxymethyl; and

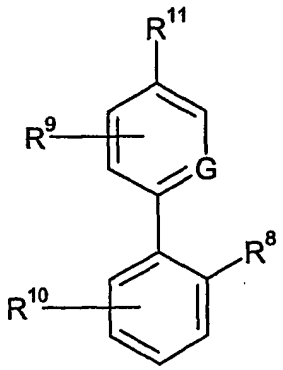
R^4 is -NHC(=O)-O-R^7, wherein R^7 is C_{1-6}alkyl.

6. A compound according to claim 5, wherein

Ar^2 is a phenyl *ortho*-substituted with -Cl, -F, -OMe, -OEt, -O-$CH(CH_3)_2$, $-CF_3$, $-NO_2$, or -CN; or thienyl *ortho*-substituted with -Cl, -F, -OMe, -OEt, -O-$CH(CH_3)_2$, $-CF_3$, $-NO_2$, -CN, wherein said *ortho*-subsituted Ar^2 is optionally further substituted at its non-*ortho* position; and

R^3 is phenyl, substituted phenoxymethyl or substituted phenyl.

7. A compound of formula II, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



II

wherein

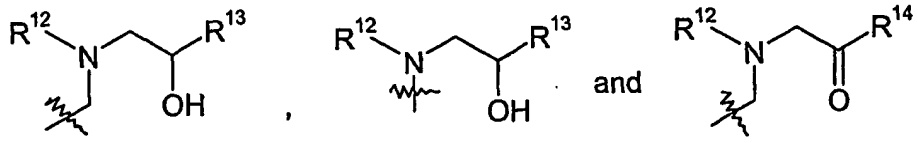
G is N or CH;

R^8 is selected from –H, $-CH_3$, $-CF_3$, $-NO_2$ and –CN;

R^9 is selected from –H and C_{1-3}alkyl;

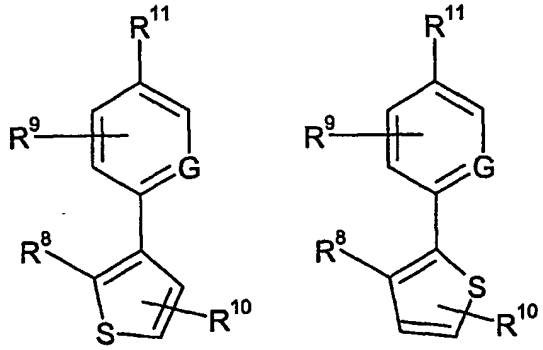
R^{10} is selected from –H and C_{1-3}alkyl; and

R^{11} is selected from



wherein R^{12} is H or methyl, R^{13} is phenyl or substituted phenoxymethyl, R^{14} is $-NHC(=O)OR^{15}$, wherein R^{15} is C_{1-6}alkyl.

8. A compound of formula III or IV, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



III IV

wherein

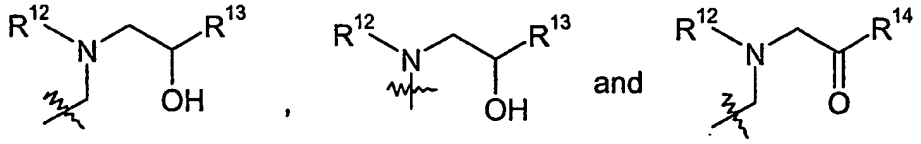
G is N or CH;

R^8 is selected from –H, $-CH_3$, $-CF_3$, $-NO_2$ and –CN;

R^9 is selected from –H and C_{1-3}alkyl;

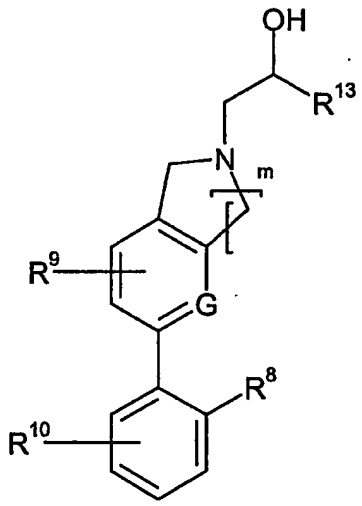
R^{10} is selected from –H and C_{1-3}alkyl; and

R^{11} is selected from



wherein R^{12} is H or methyl, R^{13} is phenyl or substituted phenoxymethyl, R^{14} is $-NHC(=O)OR^{15}$, wherein R^{15} is C_{1-6}alkyl.

9. A compound of formula V, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



V

wherein

G is N or CH;

m is 1 or 2;

R^8 is selected from –H, $-CH_3$, $-CF_3$, $-NO_2$ and –CN;

R^9 is selected from –H and C_{1-3}alkyl;

R^{10} is selected from –H and C_{1-3}alkyl; and

R^{13} is phenyl or substituted phenoxymethyl.

10. A compound is selected from:

α-[[Methyl[(2'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;

α-[[[(2'-Methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;

α-[[[(2'-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;

α-[[Methyl-[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;

1-(3,4-Dichlorophenoxy)-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]- 2-propanol;

α-[(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)methyl]-3,4-dihydro-6-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2(1*H*)-isoquinolineethanol;

Ethyl [[methyl-[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-acetyl]carbamate;

3,4-Dihydro-α-phenyl-7-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2(1*H*)-isoquinolineethanol;

1-(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-3-[methyl[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]amino]- 2-propanol;

α-[(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)methyl]-1,3-dihydro-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2*H*-isoindole-2-ethanol;

1-(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]- 2-propanol;

α-[[Methyl-[[6-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-3-pyridinyl]methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;

α-[[Methyl[(2'-nitro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;

(α^1S)-α-[[Methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;

(α^1R)-α-[[Methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;

α-[[Methyl[[2-methyl-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;

N-(2-Hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)-*N*-[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]acetamide;

N-(2-Hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)-*N*-methyl-2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxamide;

β-Methoxy-*N*-methyl-*N*-[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]-benzeneethanamine;

3,4-Dihydro-α-phenyl-6-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2(1*H*)-isoquinolineethanol;

α-[[Methyl[[5-[1-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-pyrazol-3-yl]-2-thienyl]methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;

1-(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-2-propanol ;

1-[Methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

1-[[(2',3'-Dimethyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

α-[[Methyl-[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;

4-Chloro-α-[[[(2'-chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;

1-[[(2',5'-Dimethyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

α-[[[(2',5'-Dimethyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;

α-[[Methyl[[4-(3-methyl-2-thienyl)phenyl]methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;

1-[4-(1,1-Dimethylethyl)phenoxy]-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-2-propanol;

1-[4-(1,1-Dimethylethyl)phenoxy]-3-[[(2'-methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-2-propanol;

β-Ethoxy-*N*-methyl-*N*-[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]benzeneethanamine;

N-Methyl-*N*-[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]glycylglycine, ethyl ester;

N-Ethyl-2-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]acetamide;

α-[(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)methyl]-3,4-dihydro-7-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2(1*H*)-isoquinolineethanol;

α-[[Methyl[(2,2',5'-trimethyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

1-[[[2'-Chloro-5'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

4'-[[[3-(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-hydroxypropyl]methylamino]methyl]-6-methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-carbonitrile;

1-[[(2',5'-Dichloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

1-[[[4-(2-Chloro-3-thienyl)phenyl]methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

4'-[[[3-(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-hydroxypropyl]methylamino]methyl]-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-carbonitrile;

1-[[(2'-Chloro-5'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

1-[[(5'-Chloro-2'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

1-(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-3-[methyl[(2'-nitro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]-2-propanol;

α-[[[[4-(2-Chloro-3-thienyl)phenyl]methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

4'-[[(2-Hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)methylamino]methyl]- [1,1'-biphenyl]-2-carbonitrile;

α-[[[(5'-Chloro-2'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

α-[[Methyl[[2'-methyl-5'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

α-[[[[2'-Chloro-5'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

4'-[[(2-Hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)methylamino]methyl]-6-methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-carbonitrile;

α-[[[(2'-Fluoro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

α-[[[(2',5'-Dichloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;

Methyl 3-[4-[[(2-hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)methylamino]methyl]phenyl]-2-thiophenecarboxylate;

α-[[Methyl[[2'-(1-methylethoxy)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

α-[[[(2'-Ethoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

α-[[Methyl[[2'-(2-propenyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

α-[[[(2'-Cyclopentyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

α-[[Methyl[[5'-methyl-2'-(1-methylethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

α-[[[(2'-Methoxy-5'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;

1-(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-3-[methyl[[2'-methyl-5'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-2-propanol;

α-[[[[5-(4-Bromophenyl)-2-furanyl]methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

α-[[[[5-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2-furanyl]methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

α-[[Methyl[[5-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2-furanyl]methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

Methyl 3-[5-[[(2-hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)methylamino]methyl]-2-furanyl]-2-thiophenecarboxylate;

α-[[Methyl[[4-(3-pyridinyl)phenyl]methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

1-[[(2'-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-[4-(1,1-dimethylethyl)phenoxy]-2-propanol;

1-(4-Chlorophenoxy)-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-2-propanol;

1-[Methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-3-phenoxy-2-propanol;

1-[[(2'-Methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

α-[[Methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]benzeneethanol;

1-(1,1-Dimethylethoxy)-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-2-propanol;

Methyl 2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]propanoate;

(β^1*S*)-β-[[(2'-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-cyclohexanepropanol;

1-(4-Chlorophenoxy)-3-[[(2'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]-2-propenylamino]-2-propanol;

1-[[(2'-Methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]-2-propenylamino]-3-phenoxy-2-propanol;

1-[[(2'-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]-2-propenylamino]-3-phenoxy-2-propanol;

1-Phenoxy-3-[2-propenyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-2-propanol;

1-[[(2'-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]-2-propenylamino]-3-(3,4-dichlorophenoxy)-2-propanol;

1-[([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-ylmethyl)-2-propenylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

1-[[(2'-Methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]-2-propenylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

1-[[(2'-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]-2-propenylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

1-(4-Nitrophenoxy)-3-[2-propenyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-2-propanol;

(α^1S)-α-[[[(2'-Methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]-2-propenylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

(α^1S)-α-[[[(2'-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]-2-propenylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

(2*R*)-3-[[(2'-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]-2-propenylamino]-2-hydroxypropyl butanoate ;

(2*R*)-2-Hydroxy-3-[2-propenyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]propyl butanoate;

Methyl 2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-[2-propenyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]propanoate;

1-(3-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-2-propanol;

1-(4-Iodophenoxy)-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-2-propanol;

1-(3-Fluorophenoxy)-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-2-propanol;

Ethyl 4-[2-hydroxy-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]propoxy]-benzenecarboximidate;

1-[[(2'-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(3-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

1-[[(2'-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

1-[[(2'-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

1-[[(2',3'-Dimethyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-phenoxy-2-propanol;

1-[[(2',3'-Dimethyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

N,N-Diethyl-4-[3-[[(5'-fluoro-2'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-2-hydroxypropoxy]-3-methoxybenzamide;

Ethyl 4-[3-[[(5'-fluoro-2'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-2-hydroxypropoxy]benzenecarboximidate;

4-[3-[[[4'-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-2-hydroxypropoxy]-*N*,*N*-diethyl-3-methoxybenzamide;

2-[3-[[[4'-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-2-hydroxypropoxy]benzamide;

1-[[[4'-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-3-(3-methoxyphenoxy)-2-propanol;

1-[[[4'-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-3-(1*H*-indol-5-yloxy)-2-propanol;

Ethyl 4-[3-[[[4'-chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-2-hydroxypropoxy]benzenecarboximidate;

1-[[[4'-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-3-phenoxy-2-propanol;

1-[[[4'-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

2-Fluoro-α-[[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

α-[[[(2'-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-2-fluorobenzenemethanol;

α-[[[(2'-Chloro-6'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

α-[[[(2',5'-Dimethyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-2-fluorobenzenemethanol;

4-Chloro-α-[[[(2',5'-dimethyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

α-[[Methyl[[4-(4-methyl-3-thienyl)phenyl]methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

1-(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-3-[[[3-fluoro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-2-propanol;

1-[[[3-Fluoro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

1-(4-Fluorophenoxy)-3-[[[3-fluoro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-2-propanol;

α-[[[[3-Fluoro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

2-Fluoro-α-[[[[3-fluoro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

4-Chloro-α-[[[[3-fluoro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

1-[[[2-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

1-[[[2-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

1-[[[2-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-3-(4-fluorophenoxy)-2-propanol;

α-[[[[2-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

α-[[[[2-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]methyl]-2-fluorobenzenemethanol;

4-Chloro-α-[[[[2-chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

α-[[[(2-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

1-[[(2'-Chloro-5'-methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

1-[[(2'-Chloro-5'-methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

1-[[(2'-Chloro-5'-methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(4-fluorophenoxy)-2-propanol;

α-[[[(2'-Chloro-5'-methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

α-[[[(2'-Chloro-5'-methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-2-fluorobenzenemethanol;

4-Chloro-α-[[[(2'-chloro-5'-methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

α-[[[(2'-Chloro-5'-methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzenemethanol;

α-[[Methyl[[5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2-furanyl]methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

11. A compound according to any one of claims 1-10 for use as a medicament.

12. The use of a compound according to any one of claims 1-10 in the manufacture of a medicament for the therapy of pain.

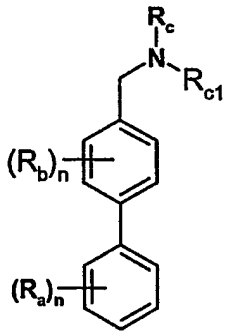
13. The use of a compound according to any one of claims 1-10 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of immune cancer.

14. The use of a compound according to any one of claims 1-10 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of multiple sclerosis, vision impairment, Parkinson's disease, Huntington's chorea or Alzheimer's disease.

15. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any one of claims 1-10 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

16. A method for the therapy of pain in a warm-blooded animal, comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to any one of claims 1-10.

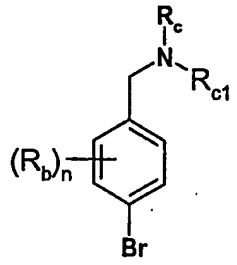
17. A method for preparing a compound of formula X,

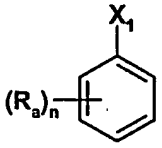


X

comprising the steps of

a) reacting a compound of formula IX with bis(pinacolato)diboron in the presence of $Pd(PPh_3)_4$; and

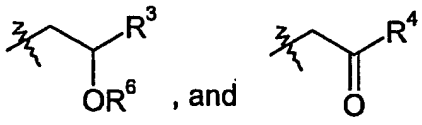




IX , VI

b) reacting a product of step a) with a compound of formula VI to form the compound of formula X,

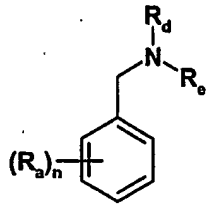
wherein R_a and R_b are independently selected from –H, C_{1-6}alkyl, $-CF_3$, $-NO_2$, and –CN; n is 1 or 2; R_c is selected from:



wherein R^3 is optionally substituted phenyl, or optionally substituted phenoxy-methyl;

R^4 is -NHC(=O)-O-R^7, wherein R^7 is C_{1-6}alkyl; and R_{c1} is –H or C_{1-3}alkyl.

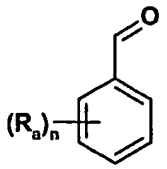
18. A process for preparing a compound of formula XIII,



XIII

comprising the steps of:

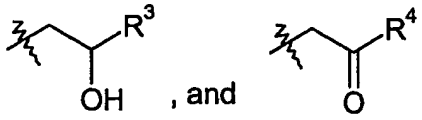
a) reacting a compound of formula XI with R_dR_eNH; and



XI ,

b) reacting a product of step a) with $NaBH(OAc)_3$ to form the compound of formula XIII,

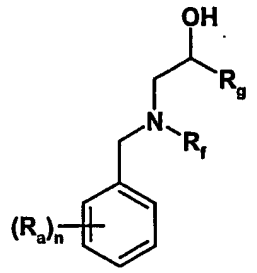
R_a is selected from optionally subsituted aryl, optionally subsituted heteroaryl; n is 1 or 2; R_d and R_e are independently selected from –H, C_{1-3}alkyl,



wherein R^3 is optionally substituted phenyl, or optionally substituted phenoxy-methyl,

R^4 is -NHC(=O)-O-R^7, wherein R^7 is C_{1-6}alkyl; wherein at least one of R_d and R_e contains an oxygen atom.

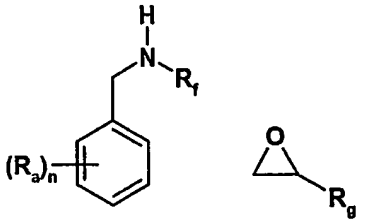
19. A method for preparing a compound of formula XV,



XV

comprising the step of:

reacting a compound of formula XII with a compound of formula XIV,



XII , XIV ,

wherein R_a is selected from optionally substituted aryl and optionally substituted heteroaryl; n is 1 or 2; R_f is –H or C_{1-3}alkyl; and R_g is optionally subsitituted phenyl or optionally subsituted phenoxymethyl.